



**San Diego County**  
**Local Agency Formation Commission**  
 Regional Service Planning | Subdivision of the State of California

**5c**

**AGENDA REPORT**  
 Business | Information

December 20, 2024

**TO:** Special Districts Advisory Committee

**FROM:** Priscilla Mumpower, Assistant Executive Officer  
 Joelle Burila, Analyst I

**SUBJECT:** **Current Workplan Update on High Priorities |  
 Municipal Service Review Update on San Diego Association of Governments**

**SUMMARY**

The Special Districts Advisory Committee (“Committee”) will receive an update on the current adopted workplan focusing on one of San Diego LAFCO’s highest placed priorities involving a Municipal Service Review (MSR) on the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG). The MSR on SANDAG will study the agency, and in particular three service functions oriented towards the Commission’s growth management interests and involving: (1) transportation, (2) regional housing, and (3) climate adaptation. The update is provided for information with an opportunity for Committee members to provide feedback to staff on interests and/or priorities on behalf of special districts in San Diego County.

**BACKGROUND**

San Diego LAFCO’s current fiscal year workplan includes 30 projects and is divided into two distinct categories – statutory and administrative – along with priority assignments set by the Commission. A scheduled MSR covering SANDAG – a regional planning agency – tops the priority list as the third project on the workplan (No. 2) and will focus in particular on its transportation, regional housing, and climate adaptation service functions.

<p><b>Administration</b>          Keene Simonds, Executive Officer          2550 Fifth Avenue, Suite 725          San Diego, California 92103          T 619.321.3380          www.sdlafco.org          lafco@sdcountry.ca.gov</p>	<p><b>Joel Anderson</b>          County of San Diego</p> <p><b>Jim Desmond</b>          County of San Diego</p> <p><b>Nora Vargas, Alt.</b>          County of San Diego</p>	<p><b>Kristi Becker</b>          City of Solana Beach</p> <p><b>Dane White</b>          City of Escondido</p> <p><b>John McCann, Alt.</b>          City of Chula Vista</p>	<p><b>Chair Stephen Whitburn</b>          City of San Diego</p> <p><b>Marni von Wilpert, Alt.</b>          City of San Diego</p>	<p><b>Vice Chair Barry Willis</b>          Alpine Fire Protection</p> <p><b>Jo MacKenzie</b>          Vista Irrigation</p> <p><b>David Drake, Alt.</b>          Rincon del Diablo</p>	<p><b>Harry Mathis</b>          General Public</p> <p><b>Brigitte Browning, Alt.</b>          General Public</p>
--	--	--	--	---	--

LAFCO retains discretion in determining the appropriate scope of each MSR and does so currently by policy delegation to the Executive Officer. Nonetheless, all MSRs must meaningfully address the following statutory factors:

- Growth and Population Projections
- Present and Planned Service Capacities
- Adequacy of Services Relative to Community Needs
- Financial Standing
- Opportunities for Shared Facilities
- Accountability of Governmental Structure and Alternatives
- Any Other Factors Required by Local Policy
  - Environmental Justice (San Diego)

## DISCUSSION

This item is for the Committee to receive an update on one of San Diego LAFCO’s highest placed priorities involving a municipal service review on SANDAG. This update follows Commission action in August 2023 to direct staff to regularly provide updates on the MSRs and in doing so provide opportunities in real-time for Commissioners, Committees, and the public to provide feedback on current and pending activities. The presentation will be provided by LAFCO staff analyst Joelle Burila.

## SANDAG MSR

Project Manager Joelle Burila

LAFCO Consultant Chris Cate

This MSR is agency-specific and focuses on SANDAG and its regional planning functions involving transportation, housing, and climate adaptation. The MSR is underway and will follow the standard format established by San Diego LAFCO with some necessary tailoring. This includes a qualitative accounting for SANDAG’s unique role as a joint-powers authority sponsored by the County of San Diego and 18 cities and in doing so serving two distinct roles – municipal planning organization (MPO) and council of governments (COG). A more traditional quantitative analysis will follow with respect to SANDAG’s demographics, service functions, and financial standing. The William Fulton Group has been retained to assist in preparing the expert analysis with LAFCO staff completing the balance of the report.

## ANALYSIS

None.

## RECOMMENDATION

This item is presented to the Committee for information.

## ALTERNATIVES FOR ACTION

None.

## PROCEDURES FOR CONSIDERATION

This item has been placed on the Committee's agenda for information as part of the business calendar. The following procedures are recommended:

- 1) Receive verbal presentation from staff unless waived.
- 2) Invite comments from interested audience members if any.
- 3) Discuss and provided general feedback as needed.

On behalf of staff,



Joelle Burila  
Analyst I

Attachments: None